

### he Problem

The best national estimates for the number of missing children are from incidence studies conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. The second National Incidence Studies of Missing, Abducted, Runaway, and Thrownaway Children (NISMA<sup>RT</sup> 2) was released in October of 2002. According to NISMA<sup>RT</sup> 2 data estimates, there were 203,900 children abducted by family members, 58,200 children abducted by nonfamily members and 1,682,900 runaway/thrownaway episodes in 1999.

### The Solution

As a member of the Congressional Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus, I have joined with a number of my colleagues in becoming an original cosponsor of the [National AMBER Alert Network Act, H.R. 412](#) in the 108th Congress. The bill would have improved the operation of the AMBER Alert communications network in order to facilitate the recovery of abducted children and would have provided enhanced notification on highways of alerts and information on such children. On April 30, 2005, President Bush signed the PROTECT Act ([P. L. 108-21](#)) into law to enhance AMBER Alert plans nationwide and strengthens law enforcement and federal criminal code provisions related to missing and exploited children.

But, parents and young people are on the frontlines of this battle and I have provided a number of resources to help them be prepared and protect their kids.

### Resources

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children [Library of Resources](#)

### From the National Criminal Justice Reference Service

- [Personal Safety for Children: A Guide for Parents](#) and [En Espa&ntilde;ol](#)
- [When Your Child Is Missing: A Family Survival Guide](#)

[Cuando su Niño Desaparece: Una Guía Para la Supervivencia de la Familia](#)

- [Federal Resources on Missing and Exploited Children: A Directory for Law Enforcement and Other Public and Private Agencies Federal Agency Task Force for Missing and Exploited Children, Third Edition, May 2001](#) —

**[Connecticut Amber Plan](#) or call the CT State Police at (860) 685-8000 or Infoline at 211**

### **Library of Congress**

- [Amber Alert Program Technology](#)
- [Missing and Exploited Children: Overview and Policy Concerns](#)